

Communist China may Trial-Manufacture the Il-14 Transport: On the 14th of November the Tsingtao Jih-Pao stated that Communist China would trial-manufacture the Il-14 (Crate) transport. This statement was made in connection with the policy of utilizing defense industries for the manufacture of industrial and agricultural products. (FDL, Weekly Information Report, No. 188, 27 January 1958)

Comment: Although this is the first statement concerning Chinese production of the Il-14, previous Chinese Communist news releases have provided some indications of future development in the aircraft industry. In 1956 it was announced that the Chinese Communists planned to construct an aircraft assembly plant in Sian which would produce modern transport aircraft. While there is no known connection between Sian plants and Ilyushin's Special Design Bureau, it is believed that should the trial manufacture of the Il-14 be attempted, the producing plant may be located in the Sian area.

It is believed that there are six plants connected with the aircraft industry in the Sian area, five of which were completed by

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the end of the third quarter of 1957. None of these plants have as yet been related to airframe production, although one facility, Plant No. 114 at Sian, is believed involved in jet engine production.

The IL-14 is probably being phased out of production in the USSR at Plant No. 30 in Moscow and is expected to be phased out at Plant No. 84 in Tashkent in the near future. The Crate is being produced in East Germany and Czechoslovakia. The aircraft would fill an important transport requirement in Communist China.

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